Message Text

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O 091613Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE INFO USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4015

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 STOCKHOLM 2286

WH FOR JODY POWELL; ICA FOR PGM/RC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH

REF: JUNE 9 TELCON FM PGM/RC/HAUGER, STOCKHOLM 2245

FULL TEXT DAGENS NYHETER EDITORIAL, JUNE 8, 1978 FOLLOWS:

TIME FOR DETENTE. IF THE SOVIET UNION WANTS DETENTE, THE USA IS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE. THIS IS A CENTRAL THOUGHT IN THE SPEECH WHICH US PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER HELD ON WEDNESDAY TO LAY DOWN HIS VIEWS IN PRECISE TERMS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER POWERS.

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S SPEECH FOLLOWS A SERIES OF AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS OF BEING WORRIED OVER THE SOVIET UNION'S GREAT ARMAMENTS AND DISPLEASURE WITH SOVIET MILITARY POLICIES IN AFRICA. MANY HAVE ALREADY BEGAN SPECULATING ON THE RISKS FOR A CHANGE OF MOODS WHICH COULD CREATE DEAD-LOCKS IN BOTH SUPER POWER CAMPS. AT THE SAME TIME THERE HAS BEEN REASON TO PONDER OVER THE CONTRADICTORY TRAITS IN AMERICAN UNCLASSIFIED

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POLICIES.

THE FIRST IMPRESSION OF CARTER'S SPEECH IS THAT THE PRESIDENT IS TRYING TO DAMPEN THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SUPER POWER RELATIONS ARE GETTING CLOSE TO A REAL CRISIS. TO THE CONTRARY, NO DOORS ARE SLAMMED SHUT. IF ONE WANTS TO PUT IT THAT WAY, THERE IS MUCH LESS

OF "HAWK" BRZEZINSKI THAN OF "DOVES" VANCE AND YOUNG IN THIS SPEECH.

THIS IS NOT SO STRANGE. CARTER SAYS THAT HIS SPEECH IS ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND THE SOVIET UNION. BUT THERE IS ALSO A THIRD POWER FACTOR. PUBLIC OPINION IN THE WEST.

AS STRONG AS THE IRRITATION IS IN PRIMARILY THE US ITSELF OVER SOVIET POLICIES--CONSIDERED BY MANY TO BE BOTH PROVOCATIVE AND ADVENTUROUS--IT IS EASY FOR AN AMERICAN PRESIDENT TO TAKE A TOUGH ATTITUDE AND SPEAK IN A ROUGH LANGUAGE TO THE LEADERS OF THE OTHER SUPER POWER. BUT AT THE SAME TIME THERE IS, AS FAR AS ONE CAN SEE. A STRONG WISH AMONG AMERICANS NOT TO BE DRAWN INTO NEW PROBLEMS OF THE VIETNAM TYPE. THE RUMORS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERED SUPPORTING THE OPPONENTS OF THE ANGOLA REGIME, UNITA, HAS AWAKENED A LOT OF OLD WORRY. MANY ARE WATCHFUL WHEN THE PRESIDENT LETS AMERICAN PLANES BRING AID AND SOLDIERS FROM OTHER NATIONS TO ZAIRE. THE NATO MEETING, FINALLY, ALSO DEMONSTRATED THAT THE US ALLIES WANT A MORE CAREFUL POLICY THAN WHAT WAS INTIMATED IN THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS.

PERHAPS CARTER HAD TO EXPRESS HIMSELF SOMEWHAT UNCLASSIFIED

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DIFFERENTLY FROM WHAT HE ORGINALLY INTENDED.

ANYHOW, THE RESULT WAS CARTER'S PERHAPS MOST WELL CONSIDERED AND SKILLFULLY DESIGNED SPEECH. IN EFFECT, HE DIRECTS HIMSELF TO BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND DOMESTIC OPINION THE WHOLE TIME. IN A WAY ONE IS NOT USED TO, THIS AMERICAN PRESIDENT BEGINS HIS SPEECH WITH A PSYCHOLOGICALLY WELL-CONSIDERED REFERENCE TO THE BROTHERHOOD IN ARMS BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AGAINST NAZISM DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR. HE TALKS ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION'S 20 MILLION DEAD. HE CLAIMS TO BE CONVINCED THAT THE SOVIET UNION WANTS PEACE. HE ASSERTS THAT BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE U.S. NEGOTIATE ON DISARMAMENT "IN GOOD FAITH". HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT BRESHNEV WANTS TO RUIN DETENTE. BETWEEN THESE KINDNESSES, CARTER GIVES A VERY HARD-HANDED REVIEW OF THE SOVIET UNION SYSTEM. WITH ITS MORAL AND ECONOMIC SHORT-COMINGS IT IS ON ITS WAY BACKWARDS IN THE WORLD, HE THINKS. AMONG OTHER THINGS, ONE HERE FINDS A REFERENCE TO THE LIBERATION OF EURO-COMMUNISM FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

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O 091613Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE INFO USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

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WH FOR JODY POWELL; ICA FOR PGM/RC

BUT ABOVE ALL, CARTER TRIES TO ACHIEVE A DRAMATIC CONTRAST BY LINGERING ON THE EVIDENT ADVANTAGES OF THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM. CARTER USUALLY TAKES CARE TO INCLUDE SELF-CRITICISM. BUT THIS TIME THERE IS NONE WHEN HE DESCRIBES THE U.S. BUT THEN THE INTENTION IS TO DISARM THE CRITICS AT HOME WITH A RHETORIC FITTING THE NEW SATISFACTION OBSERVERS NOW CLAIM TO SEE IN THE U.S.

AMERICA HAS NOTHING TO FEAR FROM THE SOVIET UNION-THAT IS THE MESSAGE THAT CARTER HOPES WILL GIVE HIM A LITTLE FREER HAND IN HIS OWN CAMP ON HOW TO HANDLE HIS OPPONENTS. HE PLAYS DOWN THE SOVIET MILITARY THREAT IN A REMARKABLY DECISIVE WAY. WITH A CHARACTERISTIC CARTER TECHNOCRAT WORDING HE ADDS THAT CORRECT ANALYSES ARE NECESSARY TO BE ABLE TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

AS CONCERNS TODAY'S MOST SENSITIVE QUESTION--THE SOVIET UNION'S AFRICA POLICY--CARTER DOES NOT, HOWEVER, DARE TO GO AS FAR AS SOME AMERICAN UNCLASSIFIED

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OBSERVERS, AMONG THEM ANDREW YOUNG, WHO THINK THAT THE RUSSIANS WILL GOOF IF THEY ARE LEFT ALONE.
CARTER CRITICIZES THE SOVIET UNION FOR WANTING
TO GAIN ADVANTAGES AND GREATER INFLUENCE IN
THE WORLD WITH MILITARY POWER AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE.
AS HE HAS POINTED OUT HIMSELF, THE SOVIET UNION DOES
NOT HAVE VERY MUCH TO OFFER IN ADDITION TO ITS
MILITARY PRESTIGE. BUT THE INDIGNATION SOUNDS A
LITTLE FALSE THIS SOON AFTER THE DISCLOSURES OF HOW
THE U.S. WITH A CIA OPERATION REALLY BEGAN THE GLOBAL
INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA'S AFFAIRS.

BUT AS CONCERNS AFRICA, CARTER NOW MAKES A WISE AND OBLIGATING PROMISE TO SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, OAU. HE TALKS ABOUT FACING THE PROBLEMS IN AFRICA WITH CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO AFRICAN REALITY AND WISHES. THIS SHOULD BE SEEN AS A PROMISE NOT TO APPLY THE USUAL OLD SUPER POWER PERSPECTIVE; HENRY KISSINGER WOULD PROBABLY HAVE CHOSEN OTHER WORDS. CARTER ALSO JUST REFUSED TO AGREE TO THE FRENCH PLAN FOR A SPECIAL PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. THE U.S. DECLARED THAT THAT IS A MATTER FOR THE OAU.

BEHIND THE CAREFUL AMERICAN POLICY IS STILL THE HOPE TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIA QUESTION WITH AFRICAN SUPPORT. THEN ONE HAS TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO TAKE A NEO-COLONIAL LINE.

THERE IS A RISK THAT CARTER'S EXPLICIT DESIRE FOR CONTINUED DETENTE WILL BE INTERPRETED AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS. BUT IN SEVERAL SECTIONS OF CARTER'S SPEECH THERE IS A MATTER-OF-FACT PUNCH UNCLASSIFIED

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IN THE DESCRIPTION OF THE DIVISION OF STRENGTH BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, SOMETHING ONE MUST BE WELL AWARE OF IN THE SOVIET UNION. NEITHER IS DETENTE WORDS ON A PIECE OF PAPER. IT IS ABOVE ALL, A QUESTION OF THE STATES' BEHAVIOR AND THEIR CREDIBILITY IN PUBLIC OPINION.
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